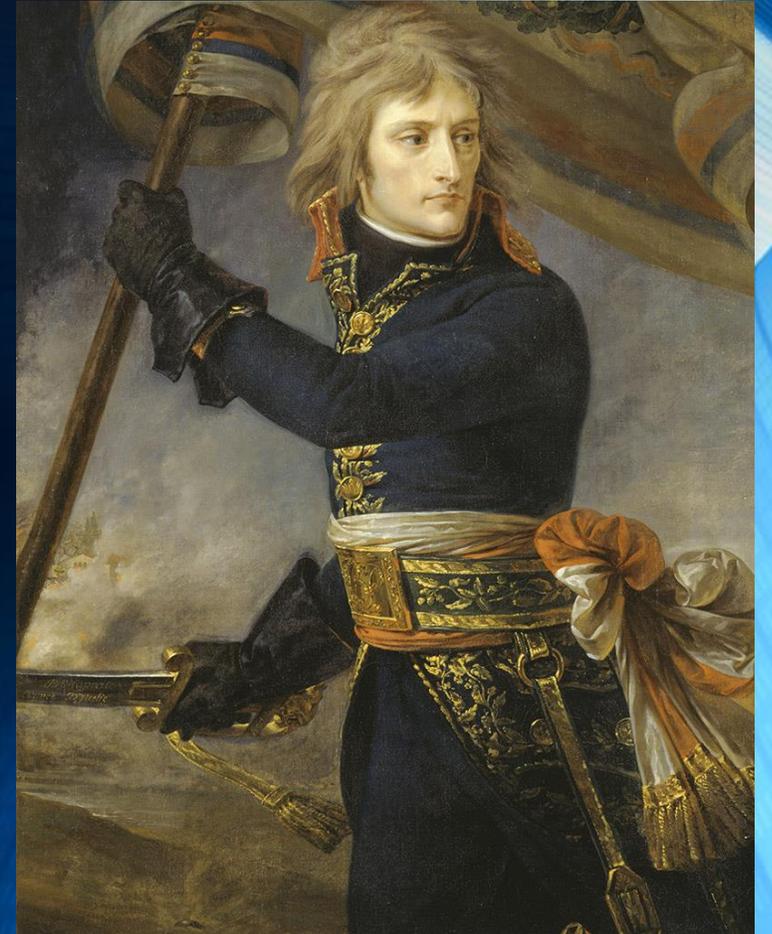




Radical Revolution and Reaction

CHAPTER 9 SECTION 2



I. The Move to Radicalism

A. In September 1792, the National Convention began meeting.

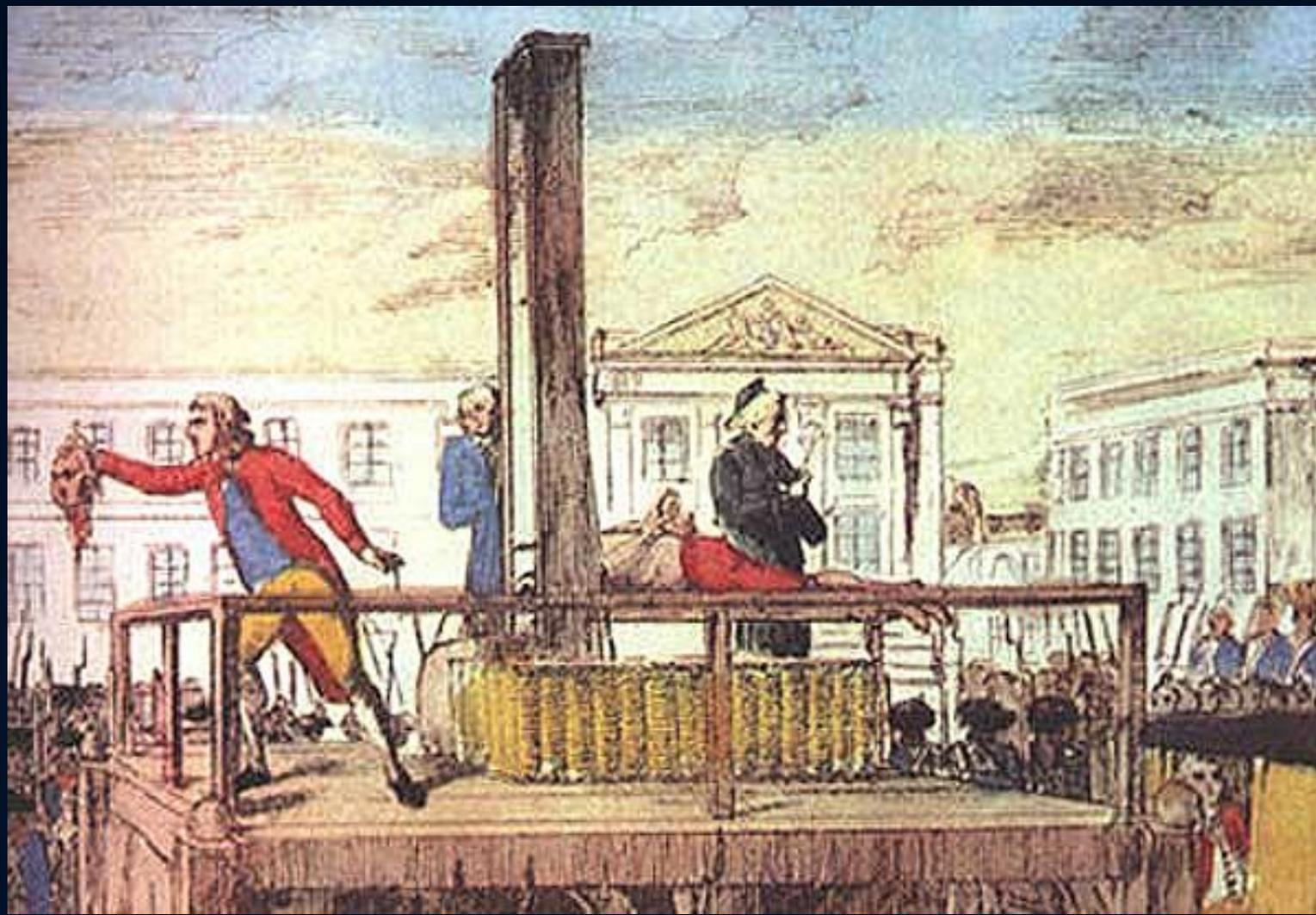
1. The Convention had been called to draft a new constitution, but it also served as the ruling body of France.
2. The National Convention's first major step was to abolish the monarchy and to establish a republic.

B. After 1789, citizens had formed political clubs of varying social and political views.

1. The Girondins tended to represent areas outside Paris.
 - a. They feared the radical mobs of Paris.
2. The Mountain represented the interests of radicals in Paris, and many belonged to the Jacobins club.
 - a. Felt that the king needed to be executed.

C. The Mountain convinced the Convention to condemning Louis XVI to death.

1. The king's execution created new enemies for the revolution, both at home and abroad.



THE DEATH OF LOUIS XVI
JANUARY 21, 1793

- D. The Commune—Led by Georges Danton, put constant pressure on the National Convention to adopt more radical measures.
- E. After Louis XVI was executed, a coalition of Austria, Prussia, Spain, Portugal, Britain, and the Dutch Republic took up arms against France.
 1. It seemed that the revolution would be destroyed and the old regime reestablished.

II. The Reign of Terror

A. The National Convention gave broad powers to the Committee of Public Safety.

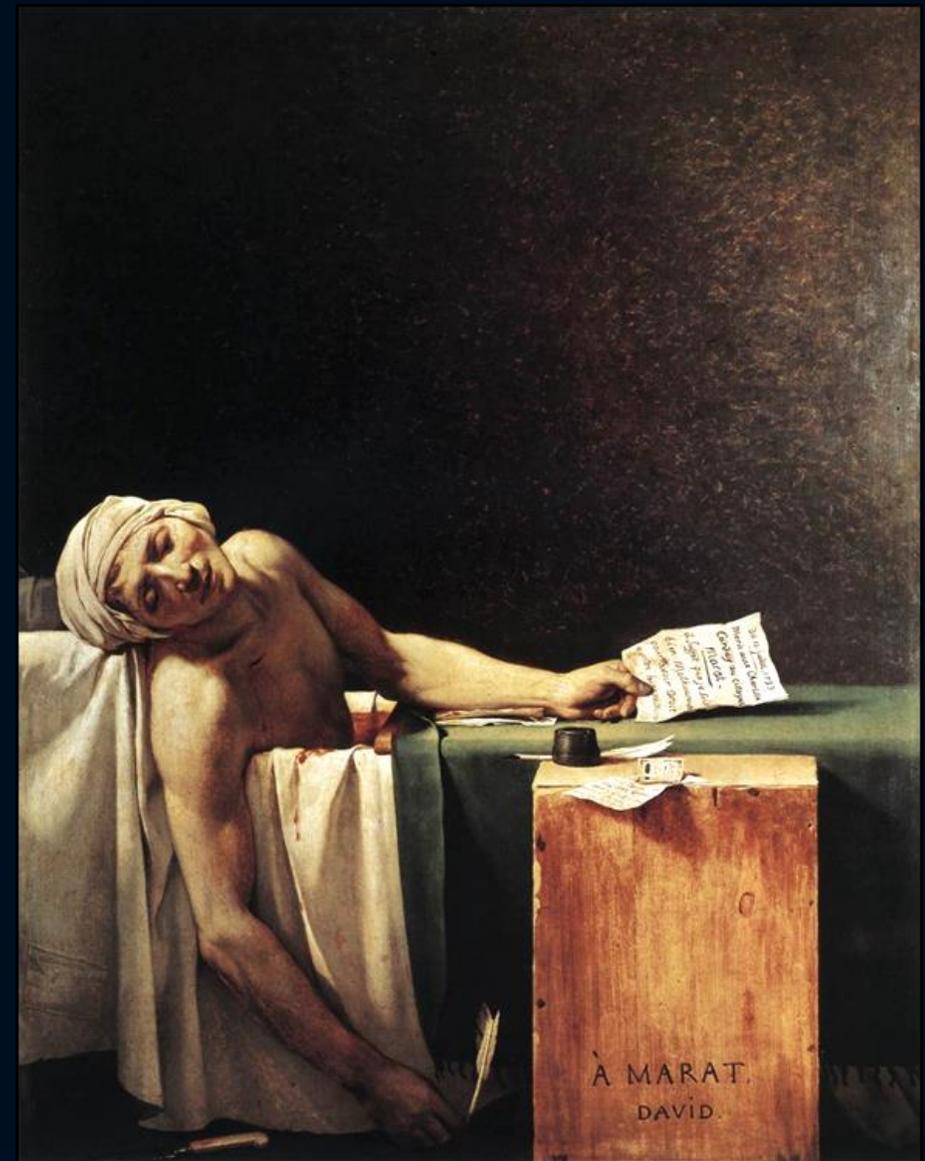
1. Dominated by the radical Jacobin Maximilien Robespierre.
2. To defend France from domestic threats, the Committee adopted policies that became known as the Reign of Terror.

B. As a temporary measure, revolutionary courts were set up to prosecute traitors.

1. Almost 40,000 people were killed.
 - a. 16,000 people died by the guillotine.

My only regret is that I'm going before that rat Robespierre.

-Danton



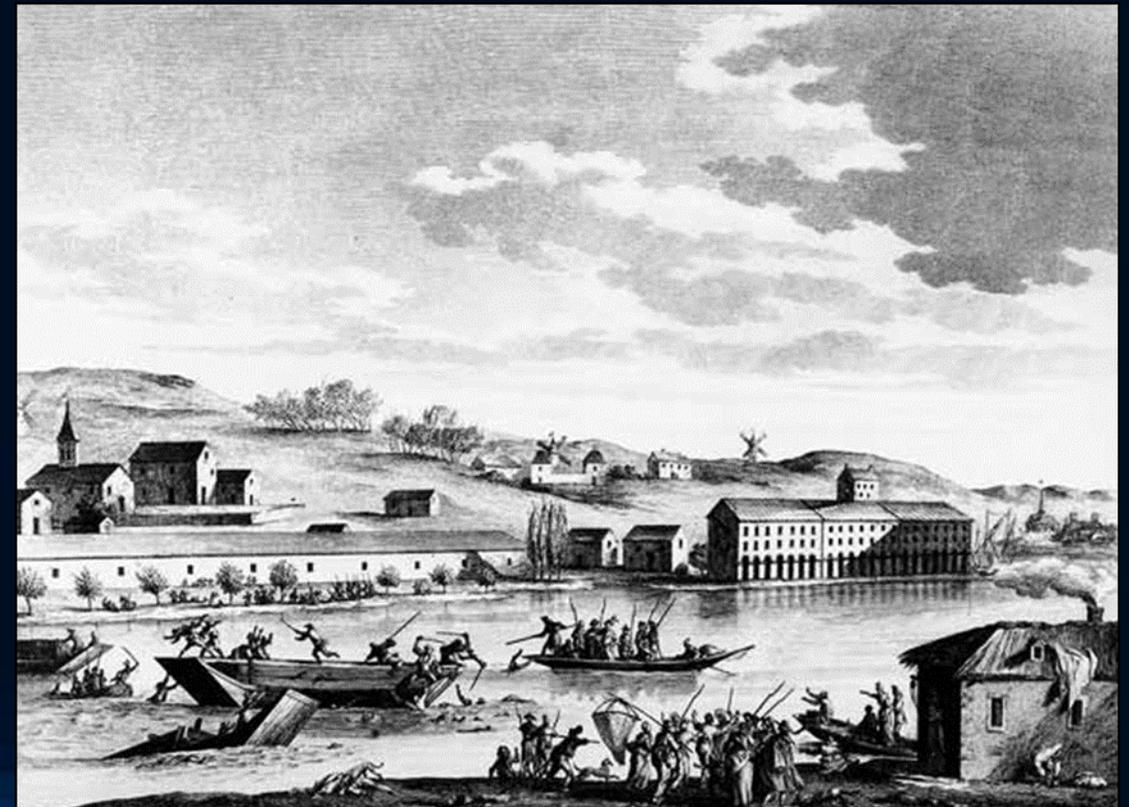
THE DEATH OF JOHN PAUL MARAT,
THE MOST RADICAL LEADER OF THE
FRENCH REVOLUTION.

C. The Committee of Public Safety decided to make an example of Lyon.

1. 1,880 citizens of Lyon were executed.

D. The most notorious violence occurred in the city of Nantes, where victims were executed by being loaded onto and then sunk in barges in the Loire River.

E. Clergy and nobles made up about 15 percent of the victims, while the rest were from the Third Estate.



F. The Committee of Public Safety took steps to control French society.

1. Called the Republic of Virtue.

- a. The titles "citizen" and "citizeness" were to replace "mister" and "madame."
- b. Women wore long dresses inspired by the clothing worn in the ancient Roman Republic.



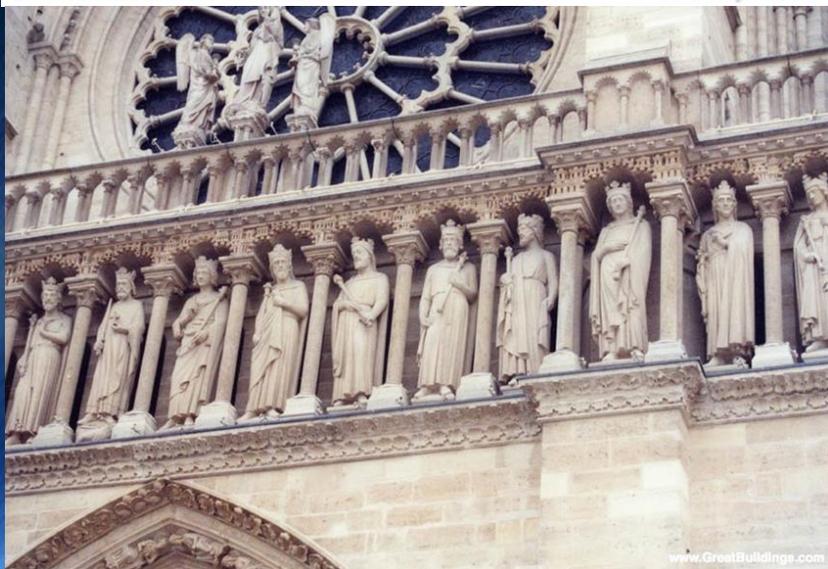
G. The Convention also pursued a policy of de-Christianization.

1. The word *saint* was removed from street names and churches.
2. In Paris, the cathedral of Notre Dame, the center of the Catholic religion in France, was designated a “temple of reason.”

H. France adopted a new calendar.

1. September 22, 1792—the first day of the French Republic was the start of the calendar.
2. The calendar contained 12 months. Three 10-day weeks, with the tenth day of each week a day of rest.

THE TEMPLE OF REASON NOTRE DAME



THE NEW REPUBLICAN CALENDAR

<u>New Name</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	<u>Time Period</u>
Vendemaire	Vintage	September 22 - October 21
Brumaire	Fog	October 22 - November 20
Frimaire	Frost	November 21 - December 20
Nivose	Snow	December 21 - January 19
Pluviose	Rain	January 20 - February 18
Ventose	Wind	February 19 - March 20
Germinal	Budding	March 21 - April 19
Floreale	Flowers	April 20 - May 19
Prairial	Meadow	May 20 - June 18
Messidor	Harvest	June 19 - July 18
Thermidor	Heat	July 19 - August 17
Fructidor	Fruit	August 18 - September 21

III. A Nation in Arms

- A. As foreign troops gathered on its borders, the Committee of Public Safety began to raise an army.
- B. In less than a year, it had more than a million soldiers.
 - 1. The largest army ever seen in Europe.
 - 2. Conquered the Austrian Netherlands.
- C. Robespierre was obsessed with ridding France of all the corrupt elements.
 - 1. Many in the National Convention who feared Robespierre decided to act, lest they be the next victims.



THE ARREST OF ROBESPIERRE

IV. The Directory

A. After the death of Robespierre, the Reign of Terror came to a halt.

1. Churches were allowed to reopen.

B. The Constitution of 1795 set up two legislative houses.

1. A lower house, the Council of 500, drafted laws.

2. An upper house of 250, the Council of Elders, accepted or rejected proposed laws.

- a. Members of both houses were chosen by electors, or qualified voters. Only those who owned or rented property worth a certain amount could be electors.

C. Under the new constitution, the executive was a committee of five called the Directory, chosen by the Council of Elders.

1. Known mainly for corruption.

D. The Directory also faced political enemies from both conservatives and radicals.

1. Some people wanted to bring back the monarchy.

E. To stay in power, the Directory relied upon the military.

F. In 1799 Napoleon Bonaparte toppled the Directory in a coup d'état.